RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1989/11th Sravana, 1911 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock. **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 221.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): How is he going to ask this question? First he should marry. The bachelors should marry first and then ask about the National Perspective Plan for Women. Is he prepared to marry? Only then he can ask any question about it. He cannot ask now.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, कल मुझे पूरा मौका नहीं मिला, इसलिए आज सवाल पूछ रहा हूं।

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Mr. Vajpayee is disqualified to put this question.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: As a Member of the House, I am fully qualified.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You ask him to marry first and then he can put the question. Otherwise, he cannot put the question.

श्री सभापति : शादी भी नहीं करा पाये इतने बड़े पंडित होकर ? शादी का इंतजाम नहीं करा पाये ?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: As a Pandit, I will find a partner for him.

फर्जी का भी काम कर लेंगे।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, आखिरी वक्त में क्या खाक मुसलमां होंगे।

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Sir marriage is not a pre-condition to know women.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): I do not know why the men are objecting. We have no objection to Mr. Vajpayee asking the question.

Recommendations made in the National Perspective Plan for Women

*221. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:†

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations made in the National Perspective Plan for Women which have been accepted by Government and the follow-up action taken on each one of them;

(b) the recommendations which have not been accepted and the reasons therefor in each case;

(c) the recommendations which are still under consideration; and

(d) by when the decision on the remaining recommendations likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) The recommendations of the National Perspective Plan have been considered by a Committee of Secretaries and a Group of Ministers. Certain recommendations of the National Perspective Plan have been found acceptable and implementable by the Group. Government decision on these recommendations is expected soon. The others require further examination.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, today again the reply is very evasive. See the question. It asks about the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government and the recommendations which have not been accepted and the reasons therefor. But the reply says: "Certain recommendatoins of the National Perspective Plan have been found acceptable and implementable by the Group." What are those recommendations? The report of the Core Group was submitted on the 9th of October, 1988 and it was signed by the youthful Minister of Youth Affairs. Sir, before this Core Group there was a report on the Status of Women in India. Now, eight months have passed. The Government have not taken any final decision. Secretaries' Committee was appointed. Some Ministers were associated. I would like to know who those Ministers are and what the recommendations which have been accepted or found acceptable are.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I think the hon. Member has rightly got a little mixed up between the different committees for women. Sir, the Core Group was the one which drew up the National Perspective Plan for Women of which, youthful or not, I was the Chairperson. The Report of the Status of Women Commission was of 1975. It is not a new Report. It was during the beginning of the International Women's Decade, and that was a study of the status of women.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: During emergency.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Long before the emergency. Don't divert the attention from women, Mr. Subramanian Swamy.

Sir, the Report of the Core Group was discussed in detail. In fact, I would like the hon. Member to know that there were 353 recommendations in the Core Group Report, that is, the National Perspective Plan. Out of these, Sir, after the study by the Group of Ministers and the Group of Secretaries. 274 recommendations were examined. Some of the recommendations are over-lapping and some could be put together. So, we have come down to 217 recommendations which have been found to be practical for implementation. But the hon. Member will realise that all of them cannot be accepted by one Department or one Ministry because various Ministries, including State Governments and others are involved, and a reference had to be made to each one of them for the actual follow-up that has to take place. So, they have been referred to the Departments and now the final form of it has to be approved by the Government for the actual, sahi I say, Sir, decision; before I can come to Parliament and say that they have been accepted, before I say that certain procedure is being followed. That is the only thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wanted to know what were the recommendations which were accepted.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I have got the statement.

We have separated the ones which have been found practical...

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): It is quite a long list.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can lay it on the Table.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: If he wants, I can read them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want it to be read?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Why not lay it on the Table of the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I will send you a copy. I have no problem.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Sir, we have no objection to place it on the Table of the House. But they are not the final decisions. If the House wants, we will place it on the Table of the House. We have no objection. But they are not the final decisions. That is why I thought I should make it clear. The Government is still seized of the matter. That would be decided shortly.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, women continue to suffer double discrimination. That has been stated in the Report also. 75 per cent of women in this country are illiterate, and the drop-out rate of girls is very, very high. In the case of middle school stage, it is 78 per cent. Sir, the number of job-seekers has increased. Their placement has reduced. Sir, does the hon. Minister think that just by declaring that 30 per cent seats will be reserved in panchayats and local bodies and not 50 per cent which was the recommendation of the Core Group—the recommendtaion of the Core Group was that women should be given representation in accordance with their population in the country, and they are more than 50 per cent—the lot of the women will improve and there will be no problem for women in this country?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I do not at all claim that by bringing them into panchayat or even into Parliament our problems are solved. All I want to say is that the recommendation of the Core Group was that women must come in larger numbers into decision-making bodies and decision-making positions—Where the policies are decided, if I may call it the panchayat in the rural areas or the places where important decisions affecting women are taken. Unfortunately, the men sit, the men decide what is good for the women. They decide how much money must be given to them, and then the men try to implement what they think is good for the women according to their priority. So, the idea was that unless women come into these places and also participate in decision-making, their problems will never be focused on, and their problems will never receive attention. We have never said that if you bring 30 per cent women or I would say even 50 per cent women into the Panchayats and the Parliament, all our problems are going to be solved over-night.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is not even 10 per cent.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: It is still a made dominated society and we agree with that. We do not agree with that system. But we say that it exists. Given this, all that we have said—and I do not know why Mr. Vajpayee is objecting—30 per cent women should come into panchayats.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We want 50 per cent, more than 50 per cent. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Member that I would be glad if they had made recommendations to their party—(at least we have made the 30 per cent recommendation) that at least 50 per cent of the seats in the Lok Sabha election from his party should be reserved for women. We would be very happy to see him do that.

श्री गुलाम रसूल मट्टू : पंचायत बिल में संशोधन करें कि 30 [illegible] हमें 50 मंजूर हैं ।

श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, महिलायें माताएँ भी होती हैं। काम करने वाली अनेक महिलाओं की गोदी में बच्चे भी सोते हैं। इस अनुशंसा में क्रेजेज सर्विसेज की अनुशंसा की गई है। नेशनल परस्पेक्टिव प्लान के अन्तर्गत क्रेजेज सर्विसेज की अनुशंसा की गई है। छोटा नागपुर औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में कोयला

खदानों, में ईंटों के भट्टों पर काम करने वाली महिलाओं के बच्चे भी नेग्लेक्टेड है और उनके विकास की उस में कोई सम्भावना ही नहीं है। मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि महिलायें जहां भी काम कर रही हैं और इस प्लान के अन्दर जो अनुशंसा है क्रेचेज सर्विसेज की इस संबंध में सरकार ने क्या कोई ठोस और निश्चित योजना बनाई है और उस योजना को लागू करने के लिए कोई कानूनी रूप देने के लिए क्या सरकार तैयार है?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, as far as working women are concerned, we have made detailed recommendations. As you are aware, we do have the scheme of working women's hostels and so on which are to be expanded. Particularly about the children of working mothers we have asked that supportive services be extended particularly on the rural side in a big way because as matters now stand, most of these benefits go to the organised sector where women work, or even to the urban-based groups. We have made these recommendations. In fact, one of the recommendations has been to avoid the loopholes which have come in; even through the existing legislation that instead of saying that any unit which employs more than 30 women should have a creche facility, we have recommended that it should be, any unit employing more than 30 persons so that even the fathers could take children and leave them in the creche and it does not have to be only women working. Fathers could also have this privilege and not make it only the responsibility of women to carry children into a creche and leave them there during the daytime.

श्री सभापति : कुमारी सईदा खातून।

श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र : सभापति महोदय मेरा उत्तर अधूरा रह गया है।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : माननीय सभापति महोदय, यह जो प्रश्न उठाया है चिरकुमार साहब ने उठाया है और मैं भी चिरकुमारी हूं। **(व्यवधान)** आज मुझे खुशी है कि मादाम भीकाजी कामा **(व्यवधान)**

श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र : मैंने यह प्रश्न पूछा था क्या उन महिलाओं के बच्चों के लिए यह जो लागू की गई हैं **(व्यवधान)**

श्री सभापति : आप का जवाब हो चुका है। अब आप बैठ जाइये। **(व्यवधान)** मेरी राय में आपका जवाब हो चुका है **(व्यवधान)**

कुमारी सईदा खातून : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मादाम भीकाजी कामा के चित्र के अनावरण के दिवस में आज इस हाऊस में महिलाओं के कल्याण के लिए जो प्रश्न उठाया गया है इस पर मुझे मन्त्री महोदया से यह जानना है कि महिलाओं के लिए कानूनी उपाय, प्रशासनिक उपाय, सामाजिक रूप से न्याय नहीं पाने वालों के लिए देखभाल स्वयं सेवी प्रयासों के संवर्धन के लिए स्वयं सेवी संगठनों का विशाम खास कर ग्रामीण, पिछड़े और आदिवासी इलाकों में तथा शहरी संगठनों में किया जाना जरूरी समझा गया है। मैं मन्त्री महोदया से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि इनके प्रशिक्षण के लिए जितनी सुविधायें दी जानी हैं, इनके लिए जितने प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र इस मुल्क में खोले गये हैं?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would need separate notice to be able to get the figures from all the States as to how many training centres are running in the country because there are voluntary groups and State Government organisations.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a very serious problem. Just recently, there was a shameful incident of *sati* in Rajasthan, and then Parliament also passed the law relating to *sati*, trying to prevent it. But there are many leaders in the country who are still propagating *sati* and advocating it as if it is a part of Hinduism. I think this is in blatant violation of the Act. But I was very happy to see Vajpayeeji talking about it, because a leader of his party, a Member of this hon. House, Mrs. Scindia, had said on the public platform, in fact, at the BJP Mahila Morcha, that she defends the practice of *sati*... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am on a point of order. Mrs. Scindia is a Member of this House and if any allegation is to be made against her, then she should have been informed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: It is not an allegation. I am not making any allegation...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: She cannot go by press reports.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I am not going by press reports. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Do you want me to drag in the name of Miss Jayalalitha who wanted to perform *sati* after the death of MGR? Will that be proper?

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: If he says it is not true, I accept it ....(*Interruptions*). My question was, what action does the hon Minister propose to take? What is the use of 30 per cent reservation or anything? What action does the hon. Minister propose to take to prevent such propogation of *sati* in future? But if Vajpayeeji says that statement is not true and that she never made that statement, I accept it and sit down.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, the hon. Member's question is directed to Mr. Vajpayee, not to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She wants to know what action you are going to take to prevent its propagation.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Next time Mr. Vajpayee will answer.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: He has already made him the Minister for Women's affairs....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You ask him to be quiet; Mr. Vajpayee is agitated today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Her question is quite simple. Are you going to take action against those who propagate *sati*?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Under the law, State Governemnts have to take action. We have written to the State Government whenever these things have been brought to our notice. But as Mr. Vajpayee says that we cannot take note of the press statements, but the press has widely reported the statement, not once but twice or thrice, about the hon. Member justifying the practice of *sati*. I don't want to name anybody; you kow who it is. But we do hope that the party will take not of it because under the law those who propagate *sati* are also supposed to be disqualified under the election law as far as the new law is concerned.

श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र : सती प्रथा का घोर विरोध पार्टी ने किया था और जयपुर में जाकर सभा में पार्टी ने विरोध किया ।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : महिलाओं के लिए जो प्रश्न किया जा रहा है उसको हंसी मजाक में न लिया जाये । इसको सीरियसली लिया जाये ।

श्री कमल मोरारका : मजाक तो आप बना रहे हैं ।

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया : जिसने सती प्रथा को समर्थन किया वह जनता दल प्रेजीडेंट है । मजाक तो आपने बनाया है ।

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: It is good that after four years of slumber, the Union Government woke up and just on the eve of election has brought out a much publiciesed huge national perspective plan for women 1988-2000 AD with the declared aim of not to leave behind the silent half of the nation while marching forward towards the Twenty-first Century.

Sir, this Plan, as the hon. Minister has said, contains 363 recommendations. Of these, 40 are in the Chapter on Rural Development and Agriculture and 85 are in the Chapter on Employment and Training. This is exhaustive. Apart from these,

there are 12 general—recommendations also. But in regard to the financing of the Plan, it says, in the beginning—I quote:

"This Plan does not seek more investments or more resources... A larger allocation of resources for women within the prevailing pattern and structure of development does not promise a reversal of trends."

Therefore, my question is, how are the recommendations going to be implemented without any further allocaton of funds and what machinery is there to implement the recommendations? Is it only for propaganda purposes and not to be realised in practice? (*Interruptions*) Secondly...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot put more than one question.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Part (b). Is a plan for the uplift of women possible separate from the general national development and separate from the purview of the Planning Commission and the National Development Council? Is it possible without co-operation between the Centre and the States? Is this question an isolated one from the general national question and the general socio-economic condition? It is dangerous to preach such absurdity and feminism. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down now. You cannot put more than one supplementary.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Just one more question, Sir. What about many of the earlier recommendations made by the Women's Status Committee as early as in 1975 and the National Plan of Action, 1976? The Status Committee made an assessment of the position of women in India and made exhaustive recommendations, many of which are similar to the recommendations of the NPP? What happened to the earlier recommendations? Then, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that is enough. Let the hon. Minister reply.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Part (d). It is natural that we have suspicion and doubts about this big NPP, the real motive behind this big show. May be, the Minister in charge of this Department, Mrs. Alva, has rightly ventilated its purpose when she addressed the Congress Mahila Conference in Orissa. She called on the delegates to realise that—I quote—

MR. CHAIRMAN: No quotations please. (*Interruptions*)

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह : हजूर, हम इनको कब तक सुनते रहेंगे ? ... (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : She said: "Our sole objective after going from here should be to ensure the victory of the Congress in the next polls". Is it really the purpose of the much publicised National Perspective Plan for Women?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I would give the answer in just one or two sentences.

श्री सभापति : आप जवाब तो कम से कम छोटा दीजिए । बड़े सवाल का जवाब छोटा होना चाहिए (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I do want to say that this is not an election manifesto. This Plan was not drafted in one day. It was being drafted for the last two years. If the hon. Member is not aware of it, I am sorry for it. About my speech at Bhubaneswar. I was not in Bhubaneswar as the Minister for Women. I was there as a party member. It was a party convention and I do not see how she can get involved in my involvement in a party convention.

Lastly, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that it is not...I would like to tell the hon. Member that...

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: I do not want to be a Minister.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: You can go back to Calcutta. You will be going back to West Bengal soon. Don't worry. Sir, all I want to say is this. I reiterate that what we have said in that plan is that women cannot be separated from the mainstream of development activity and given some kind of allotment and told तुम्हारे लिए दस लाख दे दिया, अभी कुछ काम करो, हो गया। This has been done repeatedly and we are now saying, we do not want a separate allotment, we are euqal citizens and if a Ministry has a budget of so many crores, you will spend what is needed for women out of that in proportion to the programmes for women. We do not want to become just recipients of some benefits or some charity. We are insisting that we do not want separate allotments, we have right to 50 per cent in the national budget which is being spent on development. We are not interested in your slogans and in all your solgan-mongering. We have said, in every Ministry's budget, you give us a share...Please let me finish. I have listened to her speech patiently.

I also want to say that we have said that every Ministry, including the Planning Commission, must have a Special monitoring cell which will ensure the allotment and utilization of funds in sufficient proportion for women.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mrs. Veena Verma.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Only a woman can answer a woman.

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा: सर, मैं मंत्री महोदया से पूछना चाहती हूं कि इस योजना में परंपरागत और असंगठित क्षेत्र में रोजगार तलाश करने के लिए जोर दिया गया है, जहां पहले से ही औरतों की दशा बहुत खराब है. मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि अनआर्गेनाइज्ड सैक्टर में इस कमी को दूर करने के लिए सरकार क्या करने जा रही है तथा आर्गेनाइज्ड सैक्टर में महिलाओं को रोजगार दिलाने के लिए सरकार का क्या विशेष कार्यक्रम है ? दूसरा, इस योजना में राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर अधिकारों के केन्द्रीयकरण का जो प्रावधान है वह महिलाओं को सभी समस्याओं का हल नहीं दिलाता, मैं सरकार से जानना चाहती हूं कि महिलाओं की हिफाजत वाले कानून को लागू करने के लिए ऊपर से लेकर नीचे तक, पंचायत स्तर तक निगरानी समिति को बनाने के लिए जो बड़ी आवश्यकता है उसके बारे में सरकार क्या करने जा रही है ? तथा महिलाओं के ऊपर होने वाले अत्याचारों को रोकने व परिवार के भीतर होने वाले अत्याचारों को कम करने के लिए क्या विशेष कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं तथा महिलाओं पर होने वाले अत्याचारों के विरुद्ध बनाए गए कानूनों को सख्ती से पालन करने के लिए क्या कड़े कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Sir, you have no control over women.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Who has ?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, there are about six different subjects involved. As far as the problems within the family are concerned, the House is aware and we have been repeatedly saying that the Family Courts Bill was passed in 1984 in the House and it is the State Governments which are to set up family courts. Today we have only five family courts set up in the States inspite of repeated reminders to the State Governmens. And I would like to tell the hon. lady Member on the other side who was just asking the questions that neither West Bengal nor Kerala has one. Therefore it is high time that the States took some responsibility in setting up these courts and following up that atrocities against women because they are the implementing agency.

Sir, in the last session, Prime Minister announced on the floor of the House, in his reply to the President's Address, that we are appointing a Commissioner for Women Rights to be able to follow up

legislation for proper implementation by the States and to take up matters of atrocities etc. which are not being attended to by the various agencies involved. The announcement has been made and the entire process of appointing the Commissioner is on and I think within the next few days the actual appointment would take place.

We are talking about decentralisation, not only for women programmes but the entire planning process is sought to be decentralised, taken down to the district level and to the panchayat level. Now wih 30 per cent women coming into panchayats, I know and I am confident that women will be able to play a much bigger role, as I said earlier, at the grass-roots where they have not been able to really have a role to play in the past.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Sudha Vijay Joshi. Make it very brief, please.

श्रीमती सुधा विजय जोशी : मान्यवर, मंत्री महोदया ने, पूरक सवाल जो पूछे गए थे उनका तो बड़ा विस्तृत जवाब दिया है लेकिन जो मूल प्रश्न हैं उनका बहुत ही वेग जवाब दिया है। मैं समझती हुं कि इन योजना की सिफारिशें स्वीकृत की जायेंगी तो महिलाओं को प्रगति के द्वार खूलें करने वाली चाबी ही उनके हाथ में मिल जायगी। लेकिन जबकि उत्तर में कहा गया है कि कुछ सिफारिशें स्वीकार्य हैं, कुछ पर विचार हो रहा है। तो हमें संदेह होने लगता है कि क्या सही मायने में यह प्रगति की चाबी हमारे हाथ में आएगी।

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न करिए। आपने तो लम्बा भाषण कर दिया **(व्यवधान)** . . .

श्रीमती सुधा विजय जोशी : मान्यवर, मैं प्रश्न ही पूछ रही हुं। मैं मंत्री महोदया से पूछना चाहती हूं कि 30 प्रतिशत सीट पंचायत में . . . **(व्यवधान)** . . आप सुन तो लीजिए, 30 प्रतिशत सीट पंचायत में आरक्षित करनी हैं महिलाओं के लिए, इसलिए उनको सक्षम बनाने के लिए क्या कदम इस योजना में उठाए जा रहे हैं? और इन सिफारिशों को स्वीकृत किया गया है या नहीं? और कहा गया है कि **(व्यवधान)** . . .

श्री सभापति : आप छोटा सवाल कीजिए। . . . **(व्यवधान)** . . . कौन उनको रोक सकता है? आप रोक सकते हैं?

श्रीमती सुधा विजय जोशी : कैसे रोकेंगे? आपने हमें कितने दिनों के बाद तो पूछने की अनुमति दी है।

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न पूछिए

श्रीमती सुधा विजय जोशी : और शीघ्र निर्णय करने की संभावना बताई है।" तो इस "शीघ्र" की कालावधि की क्या होगी? जबकि इतनी मेहनत से इस योजना को बनाया गया है, तो क्यों न इसकी हरेक सिफारिश जैसी है, वैसी स्वीकार करें?

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA : Sir, already half an hour has been spent on just one question. . . . *(Interruptions)* . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: That too from Atal Bihariji?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, I do realize that if women have to participate in the panchayats, then a certain amount of training and awareness generation has to be created. We have already started holding conventions of women in the panchayats in every State. We have already covered three or four States and, before next three moths, we will be telling the women in the States their responsibilities in the panchayats, what they should do and how they will have to fight even there—like we have to do here— in order to be heard so that their opinion may prevail.

SHRIMATI VIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Sir, I want to ask the honourable Minister what this National Perspective Plan is likely to do to motivate women to avail of the opportunities supposed to be offered by the Government because, as you know the Government makes many sweet promises So, I want to know what this Plan is supposed to do to motivate literate and illiterate women to avail themselves of the opportunities supposed to be offered by the Plan. Secondly, what

steps has the Government taken against the Youth Congress (I) leader who manhandled Dr. (Miss) Gujar in North Korea?

(*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, as far as motivating women is concerned, we do have many programmes for awareness generation through the Social Welfare Boards through the State Governments and voluntary groups to make women aware of their rights and to make them self-reliant enough to be able to stand up and fight for themselves, whether they are in the Youth Congress or whether they are outside.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I wonder whether the honourable Member knows what her Minister from AGP did there.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : What is it?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : He is from your own party in Assam. Try to find out. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Be clear. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Sir, her question has not been answered. The Minister was in North Korea, She can tell us what happened there.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I was not in the youth camp.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : You escape!

बिहार के हजारीबाग को रेल से जोड़ने के लिए रेल लाइन

*222. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार ने बिहार में हजारीबाग को रेल लाइन से जोड़ने हेतु अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ;

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री और उनके बीच कोई बातचीत हुई है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया) : (क) हजारीबाग के रास्ते रांची से गिरिडीह तक बड़े पैमाने की नयी रेल लाइन के लिए 1986 में सर्वेक्षण किया गया था। परियोजना वित्तीय दृष्टि से व्यावहारिक नहीं पायी गयी थी।

(ख) और (ग) बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने रांची और हजारीबाग के आस-पास के आदिवासी क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए उपर्युक्त लाइन के निर्माण का सुझाव दिया है।

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि हजारीबाग को रेल-लाइन से जोड़ने के लिये अब तक कितनी बार और कब कब सर्वेक्षण किया जा चुका है और वर्तमान में इस परियोजना में कुल कितना अनुमानित व्यय आता है ?

श्री माधवराव सिंधिया : सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट के अनुसार अनुमान है कि 262 करोड़ रुपये की लागत इस लाइन में लगेगी।

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : माननीय सभापति जी, हजारीबाग के आसपास आदिवासी क्षेत्र है और वहां पर कोयले की खदान भी है। इसलिये यह क्षेत्र बहुत ही पिछड़ा हुआ है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि परियोजना तो बन गयी है लेकिन हजारीबाग को रेल से जोड़ने के लिये रांची, गिरिडीह और उस क्षेत्र के आदिवासी इलाके में जो लोग रहते हैं उनकी सुविधा के लिये क्या रेल मंत्रालय सैद्धांतिक रूप से इस लाइन को तैयार करने के लिये सहमत हो गया है ?